

## Fiction Fare For Adults, Too

By Lois Martin

Children aren't the only ones who like the impossible. Not by a long shot. We adults fancy fiction as well as our little counterparts.

Truth, you see, is forced down our throats, all day. And while they say truth is stranger than fiction. It is to fiction we look for distraction, entertainment, escape from reality.

We grow up on it. We get smaller doses of cartoons in adulthood but a lot of us are still partial to the absolutely unreal. There are the romantic novels, movies about make-believe people television soaps, and radio drama. Radio fiction is making a comeback incidentally. There used to be "The Shadow," "Innersanctum," and the soaps in the afternoon . . . "Old Ma Perkins."

Advertising agencies must be on to viewers. They include a lot of lighthearted foolishness in commercials to be sure. They believe we'll buy the real product if they present it with unreal ads. There's Rusty Jones, for example. Rusty's a cartoon person who promises your car won't rust if you use him.

He's appealing, a freckled, red-headed cartoon person, friendly and competent in appearance. This ad is not intended for children; it's specially made for grown-ups. They sense we'll take to Rusty.

And Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol" is annually rerun with Mr. Magoo, mind you, not believable grown-ups. Television ratings must have indicated all ages prefer imagination. Now and then Magoo is further used to sell light bulbs. And Walt Disney. Adults returning from the fairyland of Disney World are as responsive to the childlike merriment as the children. It is not childish to be pleased with children's entertainment.

The Muppets have enjoyed enviable audiences. They're funny, endearing, more popular than their real guest stars. And for tougher impossibilities, there's the bionic woman, the six million dollar man and Wonder Woman (she's capitalized 'cause I like her better).

True, those creations are faddish. With the exception of Wonder Woman, they've kind of come and gone in the list of favorites. Only one is immortal, eternal, everlasting. And he's my favorite....Superman! There are too few like him. He can do anything. I wish he were real. People have jokingly called me Lois Lane. I fear I've taken them too seriously. Nothing in me opposes a man in snug fitting blue tights, red cape and a big "S" on his chest popping into town. Think what he could have done for us in the blizzard. Imagine his clout at town meetings when folks get feisty.

This is no romantic notion on my part. Good heavens no. Superman would be a practical addition to our staff, albeit a different name from the Daily Planet. He could go ahead and be magnificent and I could write about it.

The people who made the movie about him let out all the stops. The beginning, before you got down to the familiar story, took too long. But it bathed the eager audience in spectacular color movement and music. For my part, there was too much Marlon Brando, too cautious a Clark Kent, and too much titillating about a possible huggin' and kissin' between Superman and Lois. It was a promise that was never kept. And it's just as well. He was on Earth on business, remember.

I appreciated Lois Lane in the movie, mostly because she wasn't gorgeous. She was purposeful. She made no pretense at glamor. She spent her time getting in and out of difficult situations. And if that's not real life I don't know what is.

But as much as I'm fond of Superman, it's with all due respect that I suggest it's time for Superwoman. There'd be plenty of people to choose from. We're in town more, keen to goings-ons, used to tight scheduling, always sense when something's wrong, and in the habit of trying to control all elements.

Probably the idea of a Superwoman is an impossible dream. It certainly would be when some of us tried to fit into those tights.

## Harvard Club Slates Films

The Harvard Club of Hingham is again sponsoring its annual winter movie series. This year three outstanding musicals will be shown. The

### Soccer Course

A soccer coaching course sponsored by the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association, will be held on Tuesday and Thursday from 7-10 p.m. beginning March 20, 1979, at Massasoit Community College in Brockton.

first movie, on Feb. 27, is 'My Fair Lady.' 'Funny Girl' and 'The Sound of Music' will be shown on March 13 and March 27, respectively. Series ticket price is \$6 or \$2.50 for each movie.

The movies are all shown at 8 p.m. at the Loring Hall Cinema on Main St. in Hingham through the cooperation of the Patriot Cinemas Corp.

Proceeds from the movie series go to help the Club raise scholarships.

## First Night

## NRCC in Senior Showing

The North River Community Club will present a special free performance of its theatrical production of the classic American comedy 'Harvey' for elderly citizens on Wednesday, Feb. 28.

Regular performances are scheduled Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. beginning March 2 at the NRCC building on River St.

Ticket chairwoman Barbara Weber of Norwell says tickets are now available for the public for each performance at \$4 per person. Seating will be cabaret style.

NRCC president Henry DeSantis of Norwell pointed out the special preview performance for the elderly has become a standard feature of the club's drama program in recent years and has been warmly received by area communities.

'Harvey' is being produced by Pat Treganowen of Duxbury and directed by Ralph Barnes of Hanover. It has been a long time favorite among community theater

groups because of its whimsical humor and sure fire audience appeal.

The NRCC opened its drama program last fall with a sellout production of the hit comedy 'The Butler Did It,' directed by Dawn Richardson of Norwell.

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